



PATENT
Docket No.: 16869B-063900US
Client Ref. No.: HAL 238

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yuichi Yagawa

Application No.: 10/660,278

Filed: September 10, 2003

For: Method and Apparatus For Data
Integration

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 5070

Examiner: S. Metjahic

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2161

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL FOR
NEW APPLICATION PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d) &
M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VIII,
ACCELERATED EXAMINATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a petition to make special the above-identified application in accordance with MPEP § 708.02, Item VIII, accelerated examination. The application has not received any examination by the Examiner.

(A) The Commissioner is authorized to charge the petition fee of \$130 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h), and any additional fees that may be associated with this petition may be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-1430.

(B) All the claims are believed to be directed to a single invention. If the examiner determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, then Applicant will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status where the specific grouping of claims will be determined by the examiner.

(C) A pre-examination search was performed by an independent patent search firm. The pre-examination search includes a classification search, a computer database search, and a keyword search. The classification search covered the following classes and sub-classes:

Class	Subclasses
707/	10
	101
	204
709/	
	201
711/	
	161
	162

Additionally, a computer database search was conducted on the USPTO systems EAST and WEST. The following references were identified in the search report:

(1)	U.S. Patent No.:	
	5,884,310	Brichta et al.
	6,643,635	Nwabueze
	6,959,306	Nwabueze

(D) The above references are enclosed herewith, collectively as Exhibit A.

(E) Set forth below is a detailed discussion of the references, pointing out with particularity how the claimed subject matter recited in the claims, as amended in the accompanying preliminary amendment, is distinguishable over the references.

Claimed Subject Matter of the Present Invention

There are seven independent claims among the 47 pending claims. With reference to the discussion of the cited art, it is respectfully submitted that the independent claims 1, 12, 17, 27, 31, 39, 42, and 46 distinguish over the cited art as explained below:

Independent **claim 1** recites a plurality of data sites where each data site extracts data from its associated data store to produce first data. Second data is collected from the data

sites, including communicating the first data to a central site in accordance with a remote copy operation. None of the cited references show this limitation of claim 1.

Independent claim 31 recites this limitation as “communicating the first representation of the extracted data to the data collection site for subsequent integration by performing a backup operation of the first representation of the extracted data wherein the data is backed up to the data collection site.” See also similarly recited limitations in independent claims 39, 46.

Independent claim 27 recite this limitation as the “data being received as mirrored data resulting from a data mirroring operation.”

Independent claim 42 recites this limitation as “means for receiving extracted data from each of the remote data sites as mirrored data.”

Independent claim 12 recites a host processor at central data site where the host processor generates a data extraction routine for a given remote data site, and transfers the data extraction routine to that remote data site which then extracts data by executing the data extraction routine. None of the cited references show this limitation as recited in claim 12. See also a similarly recite limitation in the method claim 17.

U.S. Patent No. 5,884,310 Brichta et al.

The patent to Brichta et al. (5,884,310) provides for Distributed Data Integration Method and System. The reference discloses in Fig. 1 FIG. 1 a block diagram of a distributed database system 12 and is explained beginning at column 2, line 38. The distributed database system 12 includes a plurality of source systems 14 in communication with a common server 16. Each source system 14 includes a source database 20 and a database controller 22. The source database 20 consists of a number of records, each of which is constructed of fields of a particular type, together with a collection of operations that facilitate searching, sorting, recombination and similar activities. The source systems 14 include source databases 20 that store data in disparate formats and file structures. A database controller 22 manages requests for database action. The database controller 22 includes an extraction engine 24 and a transformation engine 26. The extraction engine 24 operates in conjunction with the database controller 22 to extract data from

the source database 20. The transformation engine 26 transforms the extracted data into a common format and file structure to be loaded in a common server 16.

The common server 16 comprises a common database 32 and a common database controller 34. The database controller 34 manages requests for database action. The database controller 34 includes a load engine 48. The load engine 48 operates in conjunction with the database controller 34 to load data received from the source system 14 into the common database 32. Thus, data from a number of source systems 14 may be loaded, combined and otherwise manipulated in the common database 32.

Fig. 4 shows a flow chart of a method of extracting, receiving and loading data into the common database 32, and is explained beginning at column 6, line 19. The method begins at step 100 wherein data is extracted from the source database 20. The data may be extracted by the extraction engine 24. As previously discussed, the source databases 20 of the source systems 14 may store data in disparate formats and file structures. At step 102, the extracted data is transformed into a common format and file structure. At step 104, the transformed data is transmitted to the common server 16. In the embodiment of FIG. 1, where the source systems 14 and common server 16 are remote, the data may be transmitted over the network 30. As previously discussed, the network 30 may be a Local Area Network (LAN), a Wide Area Network (WAN) or a combined network. The data may be received at the common server 16 by the common database controller 34. The data is then further processed in the common server as shown in the steps following step 104.

U.S. Patent No. 6,643,635 Nwabueze

U.S. Patent No. 6,959,306 Nwabueze

The patent to Nwabueze (6,643,635) provides for Methods for Dynamically Accessing, Processing, and Presenting Data Acquired from Disparate Data Sources. The cited reference U.S. Patent No. 6,959,306 is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 6,643,635, and so the following discussion is applicable to both references.

Nwabueze describes computer-implemented methods that intelligently automate the extraction, organization, formatting and presentation of data from various data sources. Fig.

2 shows a flowchart 110 defining an overview of the disclosed method. In the initial operation 112, a data acquisition engine acquires the desired data from the various data sources. The data acquisition engine will read the data source and request the acquisition of the data. Column 7, lines 49-59.

Fig. 4A shows a flowchart 148 defining a more detailed description of the data acquisition routine. See column 11, lines 19-45. In step 150, the data acquisition routine initiated. The method then proceeds to operation 152 where the data acquisition engine refers to and accesses the data sources. The identity, access routines, source path and passwords if required, for the various data sources are defined in a customer user profile. The data acquisition engine utilizes the defined source path to locate the various data sources. Next, the method proceeds to operations 154 and 156 where the data acquisition engine is requested to read the data source to acquire the data from the data source(s). The desired data, as specified by the customer in the customer user profile, is captured by the data acquisition engine.

Two notable aspects of the method disclosed by Nwabueze are: (1) the data acquisition engine refers to and accesses the data sources; and (2) the data acquisition engine acquires the desired data from the various data sources.

Returning to Fig. 2, when the data is obtained, a data transforming engine converts the pre-processed data from the various data sources and varying data formats to a uniform format, operation 118. Then at operation 120 a data aggregating engine organizes the processed data from operation 118 for presenting a desired report. Then at operation 122 a data presentation engine will take the organized and formatted processed data from operation 120 and display the data as a report for the customer to view, interact with, or modify its presentation format so as to gain the most useful desired information. See generally, col. 18, line 30 to col. 19, line 15.

Conclusion

In view of this comments presented in the instant petition and the claim amendments presented in the accompanying preliminary amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a first Office Action at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments
- Exhibit A w/ 3 references

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